MACKENZIE QUEEN

BOOK FIVE

SR
BISSETTE
6/86

$1.75 CAN.
$1.50 USA

MATRIX
GRAPHIC
SERIES

MACKENZIE QUEEN

5 issue limited series

MURPHY'S LAWYER

An Open Letter to Whoever Paid Money for this Magazine

Thanx. You helped us get started.

Comics are an exciting and relatively new entertainment medium that can make me stand on my head. It's like music, and maybe you feel it too.

Mackenzie Queen is finished for now. But I'm going to hop back on it just as soon as business picks up. That's where *you* come in. Keep buying Matrix stuff. I mean, hey, don't buy it if you don't like it; but if you do, don't forget to pick up *New Triumph featuring Northguard, The Jam* and *Dragon's Star*...

...Sir, I'm glad you asked! Matrix is blowing up like a cool balloon. Soon you will be able to enjoy two new regular series from us. Wow. And it just so happens that *I* do *The Jam*. Go for it. *Make me rich*. Next year I promise to do a *Ududu Special*. Honest. Thanks again to Stephen Bissette for the beautiful cover illustrations, and could someone invite us to a good two-day convention in California... please?

Bernie Mireault

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

I second that. With rooms facing the swimming pool.

I find this sort of melancholy, actually. *Mackenzie Queen* is Matrix's first limited series, and here it is coming to a conclusion. It's hard to believe that this began way back in early 1985 (and even earlier, since Bernie had drawn the first two installments at least two years before the book ever came out), but then again, "Bi-monthly" has always been a relative term here at Matrix. That's going to change in the future though. We're going commercial! Every month on the month! *Adolescent Nucleoid Savate Squirrels!*...

No. I mean yes. I mean... Yes, we're going to improve scheduling and promotion. No, we're not going to publish comics about radioactive furry things with swords. Lizards in space, yes, but no radioactive furry things with swords.

Explanation? *Dragon's Star*, by Mary Ann Bramstrup and Ian Carr. Good, intelligent, fun science fiction adventure, starring Marrik, the most lovable lizard since Dino the Dinosaur (loveable, that is, until you cross him). *The Jam*. If you're reading this, do I have to tell you of the work of Bernie Mireault? Look for *The Jam Special* No. 1 (reprinting the back-up stories from *New Triumph* No. 2-5 plus some new material) on sale soon, and *The Jam* No. 1, featuring *all-new* stories and art, on sale two months later.

This is the end of *Mackenzie Queen*, yes, but in some ways it also marks the end of Matrix's adolescence as a publisher. We've learned, we're stronger for having learned, and there ain't no stoppin' us now! Thanks for your support!

Mark Shainblum
Editor/Publisher

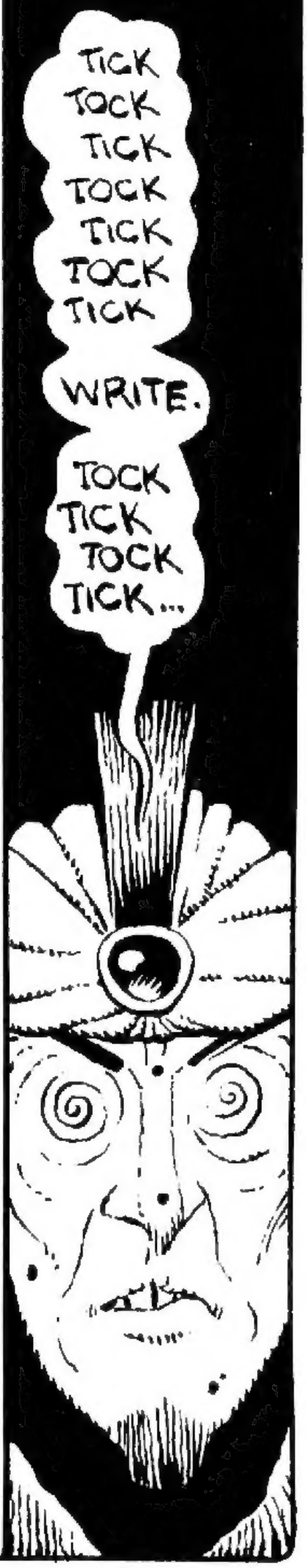
EDITOR PUBLISHER
Mark Shainblum

ART DIRECTOR
Gabriel Morrissette

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS
Bobbie Gill
Mei-Lin Yee

COVER ARTIST
Stephen Bissette

CREATED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY
Bernie Mireault



MATRIX GRAPHIC SERIES

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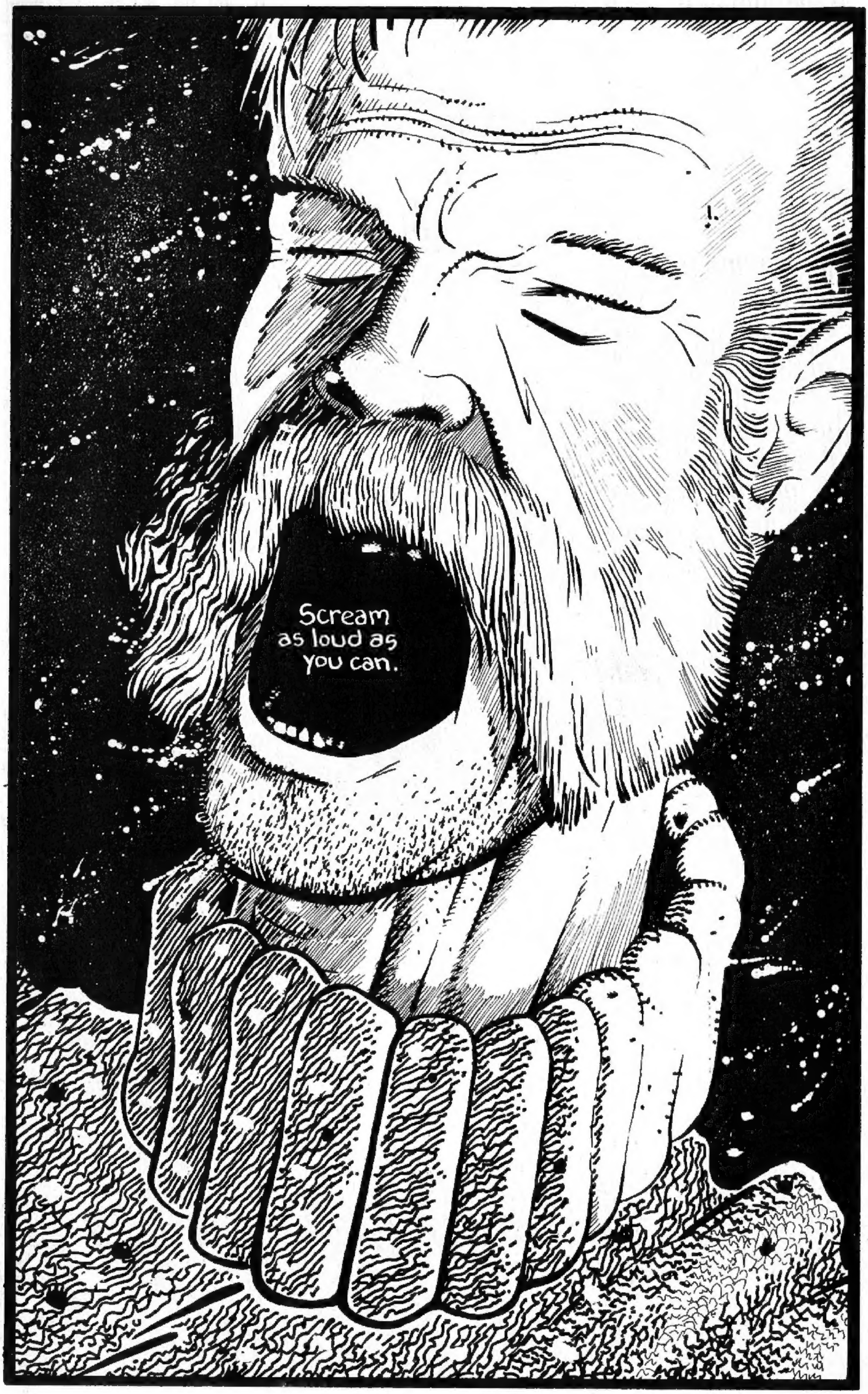
Th-th-that's all, folks.


!
Scream as loud as you can.

Mockenzie Queen 5

DO WE FRIGHTEN YOU?

... I JUST HAD TO GET THAT OUT...

AH. YOU ADJUST QUICKLY. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A STAR?...

I'M BURNING.

IT'S NOT PHYSICAL.

CAN YOU SING?

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

OH YES.

WE NEED YOUR SOUND TO FASHION THE TOOL...

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SING?...

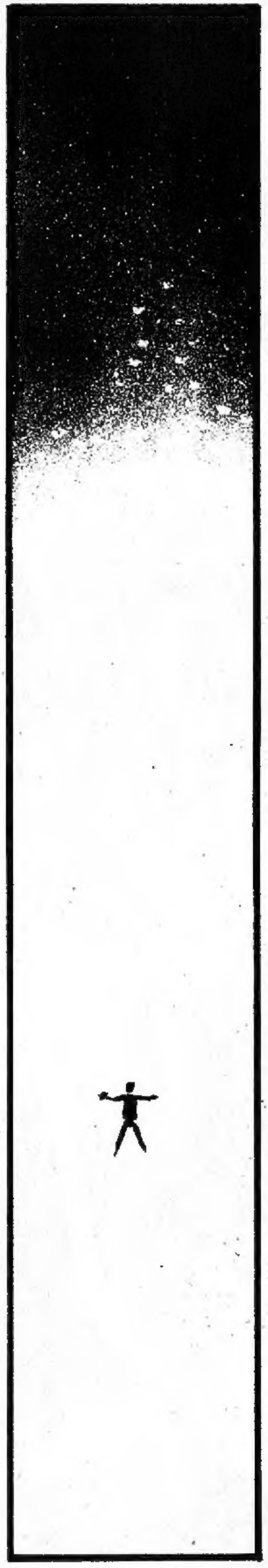
SOUNDS.

BE QUICK, START NOW.

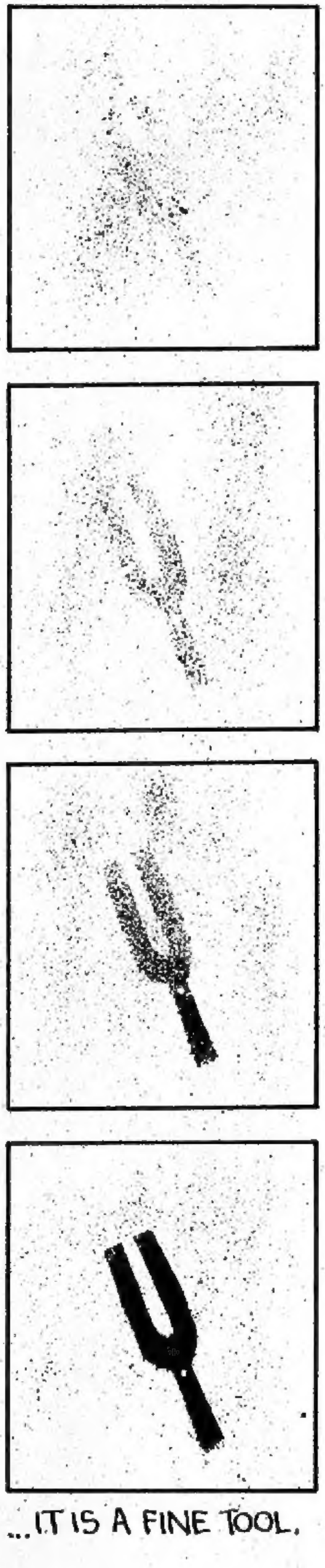
THIS IS NUTS.

...SO HE SINGS. A SIMPLE SCALE. HIS VOICE IS NOT A STRONG ONE, BUT HIS HEART MAKES UP THE DIFFERENCE. IT ALWAYS HAS.

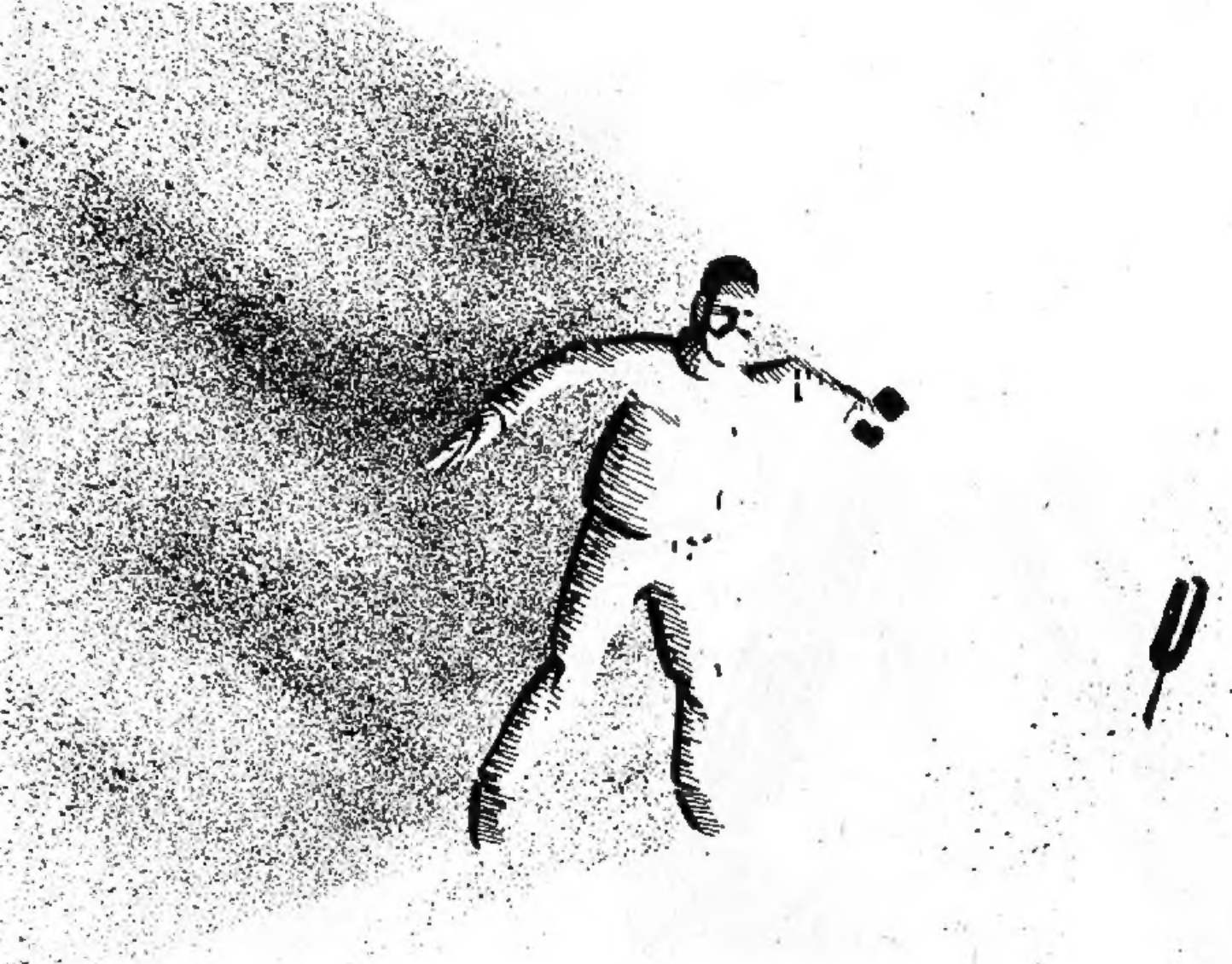
...IN EVERYTHING.

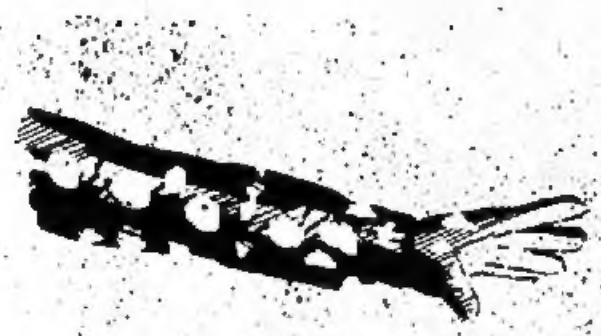


...AND IN THE HEART OF THE LIGHT...



...IT IS A FINE TOOL.





A TUNING FORK. WHAT DOES...
TRY IT.

PING

OH MAN...

HA!

NOW YOU ARE TUNED...

...WELCOME.

I UNDERSTAND NOW. I CAN MAKE THE ICE-MEN FEEL LIKE THIS, NO ONE HAS TO DIE.

IT'S PERFECT.

I HAVE TO GO NOW, BUT WHEN THIS IS OVER I'LL COME BACK...

...AND I'LL BRING MY GUITAR.

POOF

OH YES.

WE HAVE MUCH TO TRADE ...

WE WILL WAIT.

WE WILL ATTACK ...

MILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS AND ALL THAT STUFF.

NOW!!

...NOW, I KNOW I SAID THAT THIS PLANET WAS PERFECT...

BUT...

...I WAS WRONG!

I HATE IT!

I HATE IT!

SO!...

...WE'RE GOING TO BURN IT.

THAT'S ALWAYS FUN.

DENIS! HAVE YOU SEEN TREEP OR CURLY?...

NOW WE'RE GOING TO SING A SONG!

oink.

WHEE!

NOT SINCE THE SEARCH.

THE GREAT-ONE MUST BE TOLD. I'M GOING TO DIE.

DON'T WORRY! HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD NOW...

BESIDES...

...IF I KNOW THOSE TWO, THEY'RE JUST LATE...

eei!

eei!

...AND IN THE DARK... THINGS DEVELOP.

Y'KNOW...

...SOMEHOW I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WOULD BE BIGGER.

eei.

eei.

...oOoo.

PLEASE!

...MY WET STUFF IS FILLING MY EYEBALLS...

THEY'LL POP!

YOUBETTERLETUSGOOR THEGREATONEWILLFRY YOURASSWHOEVERYOUARE YOUBETTERLETUSGOYOU..

YOU WIPED OUT MY ENTIRE RACE.

eei.

COL. JAMES DICK IS AN ASTRONAUT WHO WAS ABDUCTED BY THE ICE-MEN.

HE HAS EXPERIENCED MANY THINGS IN THE LAST TEN HOURS...

EXPLOSIONS.

THE SPEED OF LIGHT.

TENTACLES.

BIG PIPES.

MONSTERS!..

AND NOW...

...NOW HE THINKS HE HEARS VOICES IN THE DARK.

...YOU WIPED OUT MY ENTIRE RACE.

IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN HOW COME YOU'RE HERE?

ENGLISH...

GOOD QUESTION!

TWO PEOPLE. SPEAKING ENGLISH.

WHERE IS HE?

HIS SUIT IS HEAVY AND HOT LIKE A SAUNA BUT IT HAS A LIGHT...

...I FIGURE THAT I'M HERE FOR A LITTLE SYMBOLIC REVENGE.

eei

GUK!

ENGLISH. THEY CAN EXPLAIN. WHAT'S GOING ON. PLEASE...

DICK.

WELL!... HELLO THERE!

GUK.

eei.

...HE SCREAMS BECAUSE HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND...

...BUT THEN IT JUST GETS STRANGER...

HA!
eeeiii.
EY!
BUT..
WHAT A LIFE I'M GOING TO HAVE!
UDUDU! WE WIN! ITS SO EASY! IT'S PERFECT!
SWELL, BIGM! LOOK HERE...
...SEE WHAT I FOUND?
YOU... YOU'RE HUMAN! HELP ME... OHGOD..
IT'S O.K! LISTEN...
...JUST LISTEN!
ooo..
PING
oooo!..
GGGGG
GGGGG

EEI!!

STOP THAT NOISE!

I COMMAND YOU!!

GGGGGGGGGGGG

ooo.

ooo.

zowie.

ooo.

ooo.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!!

DON'T TOUCH ME!!!

POP!

SPUTTER!

FIZZLE!

DON'T TOUCH ME...

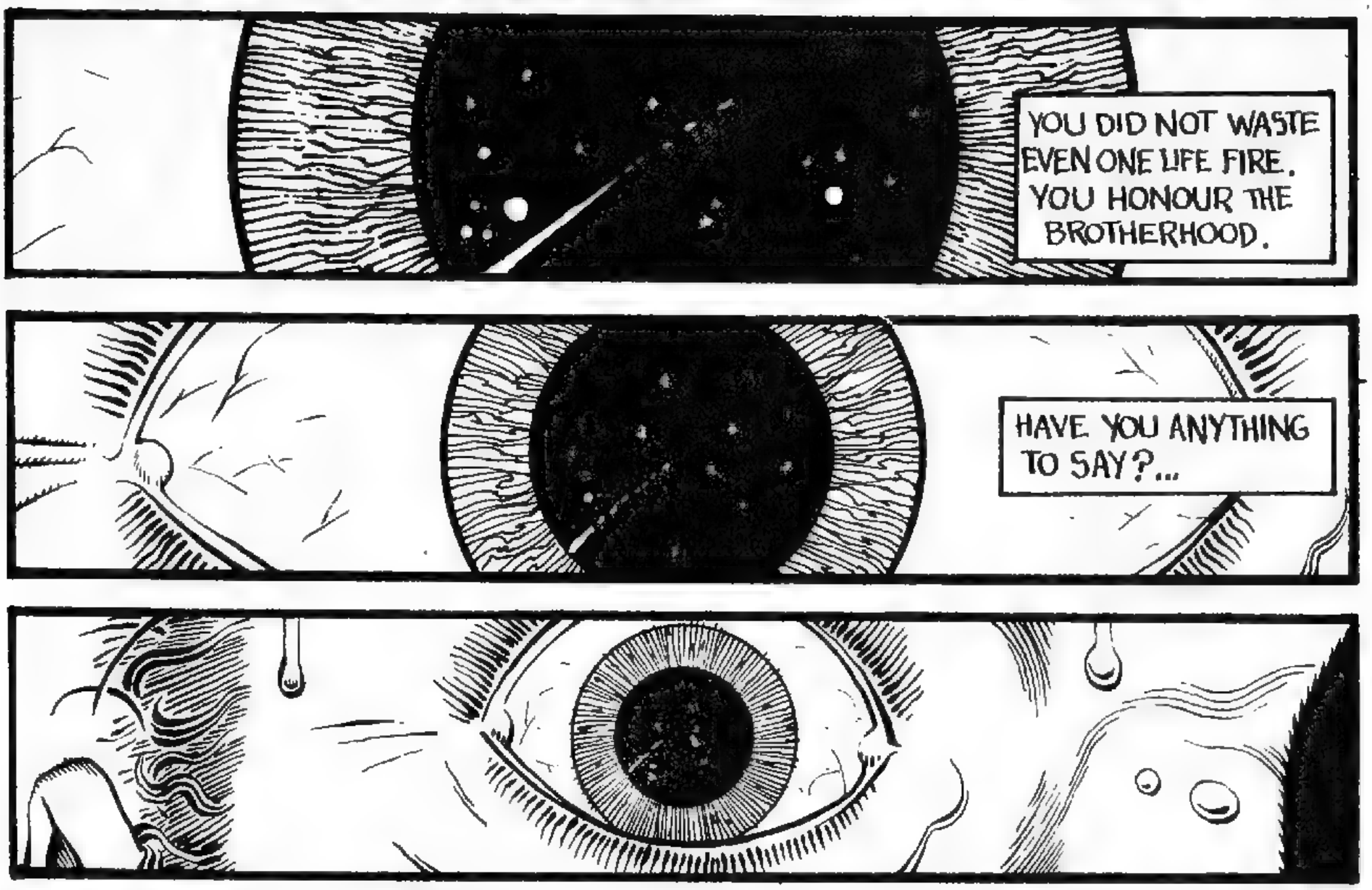
PLEASE...

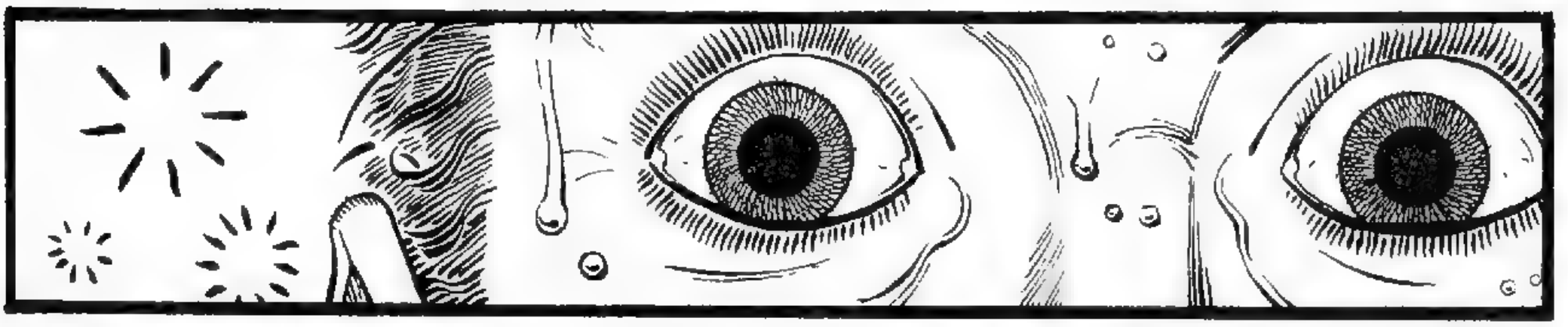
I'LL BE GOOD...

GGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG

G G G

YOUR MISSION IS COMPLETE.


YOU DID NOT WASTE EVEN ONE LIFE FIRE. YOU HONOUR THE BROTHERHOOD.
HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY?...



HEY MISTER, SOMEONE'S TALKING TO YOU..

...YOU HAVE CHANGED YOUR FEATURES SINCE THE CANDLE...

DO YOU STILL PLAY YOUR GUITAR IN THE STREET?

THE ICE-MEN HAVE BEEN SAVED, THE BROTHERHOOD WILL CARE FOR THEM AND TEACH THEM.

HMPH! I HEAR THAT THEY'RE GOING TO BE PICKING UP GARBAGE AROUND ANTARES.

PLAYFUL UDUDU! YOU HEAR WHAT IS YET ONLY THOUGHT...

MAC-EN-ZY QUEEN, I MUST TELL YOU...

...YOUR MUSIC IS POWERFUL.

HOW COME YOU'RE SO BIG?

HA! MY MASS IS NOT FIXED, EARTHMAN.

...IN A MOMENT YOU WILL SEE... ...EVERYTHING.

WHOOSH

NOW YOU ARE FULL BROTHERHOOD.

YOU WILL LIVE ONE THOUSAND YEARS. YOU WILL LEARN BALANCE AND APPLY IT... HERE.

Woah.

WE PROMISE TO DO GOOD!

...RIGHT BIG M?

yes.

BEFORE YOU GO... YOU MUST RETURN THE TOOL...

DO IT!

BUT...

...CAN I HAVE IT AS A SOUVENIR? THAT'S ALL I WANT. YOU CAN TAKE THE "THOUSAND-YEARS" BACK...

...IT'S NOT ASKING FOR MUCH...

NO...

...YOU MEAN WELL, BUT IT WOULD... UPSET THE BALANCE THAT WE MAINTAIN...

...IT WOULD--

Hey!...

...ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT TOO MUCH GOOD IS BAD?...

...BE SERIOUS!

...YOU MUST TRUST US IN THIS.

...YOU MAY KEEP THE TELEPORTER.

...I HEAR THAT YOU WILL PLAY YOUR GUITAR FOR THE SUN-WOMEN...

...YOU CAN LEARN THERE.

FAREWELL.

YO! KURU!

I CRAVE A BOON...

YOU WISH TO STAY WITH THE EARTHMAN.

...TEMPORARILY, OF COURSE. I FIND THEIR VARIOUS CULTURES FASCINATING, THIS WOULD BE A GREAT PLACE FOR A VACATION,... Y'KNOW?

CHOKE.

DOES THE EARTH-MAN AGREE?

IMPOSSIBLE! ON EARTH, YOU CAN GET KILLED FOR BEING THE WRONG COLOR OR FOR BELIEVING THE WRONG THING...

oh!

THEY COULD TRY.

MAC-EN-ZY QUEEN, AS A BROTHER, YOUR FIRST REAL QUEST IS TO BRING ABOUT THE END OF THIS PREJUDICE AND FEAR. YOU HAVE ONE THOUSAND YEARS.

...YOU,...THEY WOULD BURN,

MY GOD,...

I'LL HAVE THAT POWER?

YES.

I'M STAYIN'!

LISTEN TO THIS!...

YUP.

HOLD IT BUDDY! I CAN GET YOU BACK TO EARTH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO STAY...

I KNOW THAT!

...BUT I'M AN ASTRONAUT MISTER,...

DICK.

...AND IF HITCH-HIKING IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET OUT THERE, THEN THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO...

...IF THE BIG GUY SAYS OKAY...

HAHA! WE WOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU, SPACEMAN...

...NOW WE MUST GO. BE WELL, BROTHERS.

HOLY...

...SHIT.

"WE WILL SPEAK AGAIN, AT A TIME HIDDEN BY THE MISTS OF FUTURE."

HOME SWEET HOME!

YEEHAW!

...I HOPE YOU APPRECIATE THIS...

Hey Bartender! -- MORE RUBBER BALLS! QUICKLY!

OINK! OINK! OINK! OINK! OINK! OINK! OINK!

OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK OINK

COME SPACEMAN, YOU GO NOW TO CHOOSE A MATE.

YOU ARE FORTUNATE. THE CHOICE THIS CENTURY IS GOOD.

THIS IS TOO MUCH.

SING! SING!

oink. oink oink oink oink. oink. oink. oink

GEE, THE GREAT-ONE LOOKS ALL BUMMED-OUT!

YA...

...NO MORE FEAR TO EAT.

I WILL WAIT.

I WILL WIN.

HOW LONG WERE WE GONE?

ABOUT 8 HOURS, YOUR TIME.

8 HOURS!?

...IT FEELS LIKE YEARS.

WHAT A LIFE.

SO, YOU EAT RAW MEAT, HUH? WELL, I...

...WHAT'S WRONG?...

OH LORD

IT'S COOL, BIG M! THIS IS MY JOB. STAND BACK...

STOP!..

SEEE!

DZZT

POP FIZZZ POP

GEE!...

...I CAN TELL THAT I'M NOT GOING TO BE OF MUCH USE AROUND HERE.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT...

...BUT IF YOU WANT TO HELP, YOU CAN THROW A SHEET OVER THAT THING, AND STAND IT IN THIS CORNER...

I'M GOING TO BED.

OKAY BOSS!

THERE'S THAT THERE FELLA'S CASTLE I WUZ TELLIN' YOU ABOUT...

EYUH, HOW'S YOUR MOM, ED?

BIG M! WHERE ARE YOU?

BIG M?...

YO! BIG M!

HELLO?

WHERE IS HE?

BEM 86

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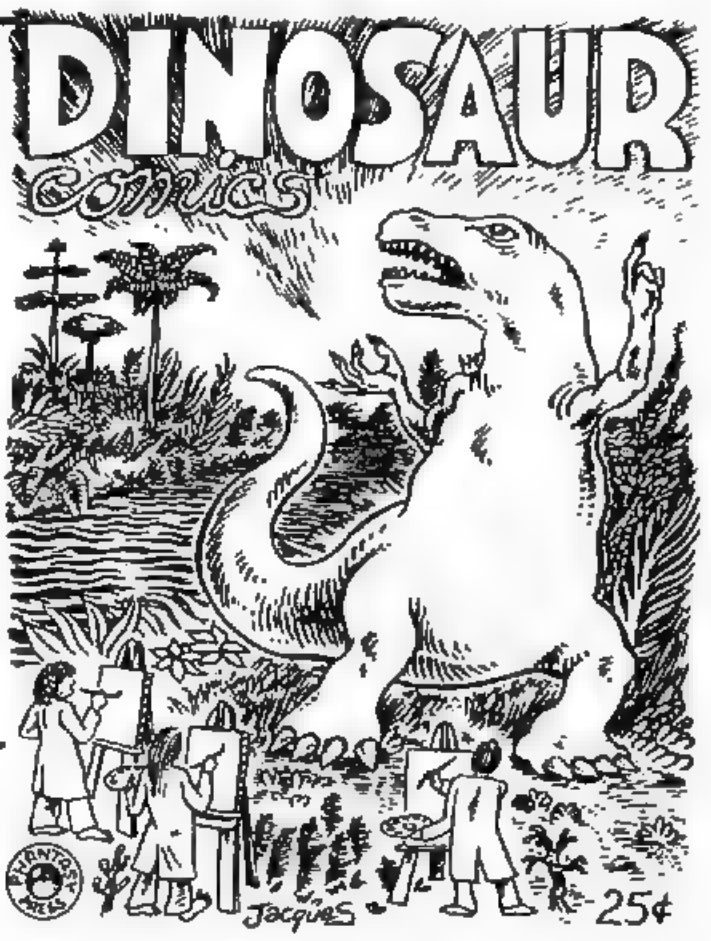

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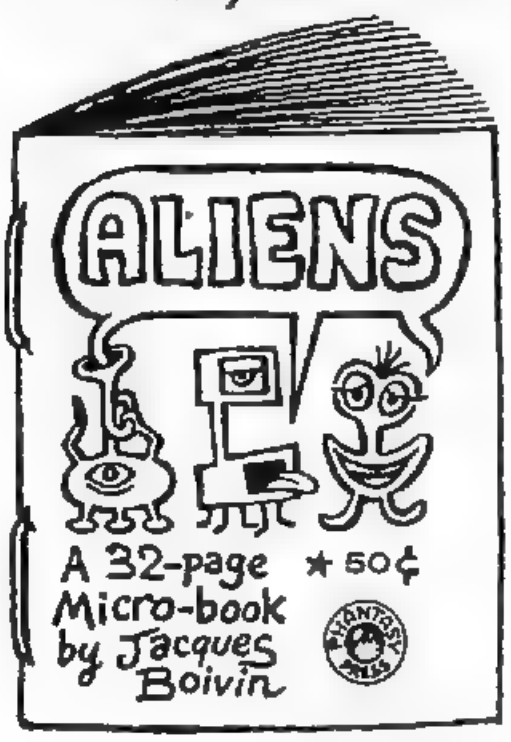

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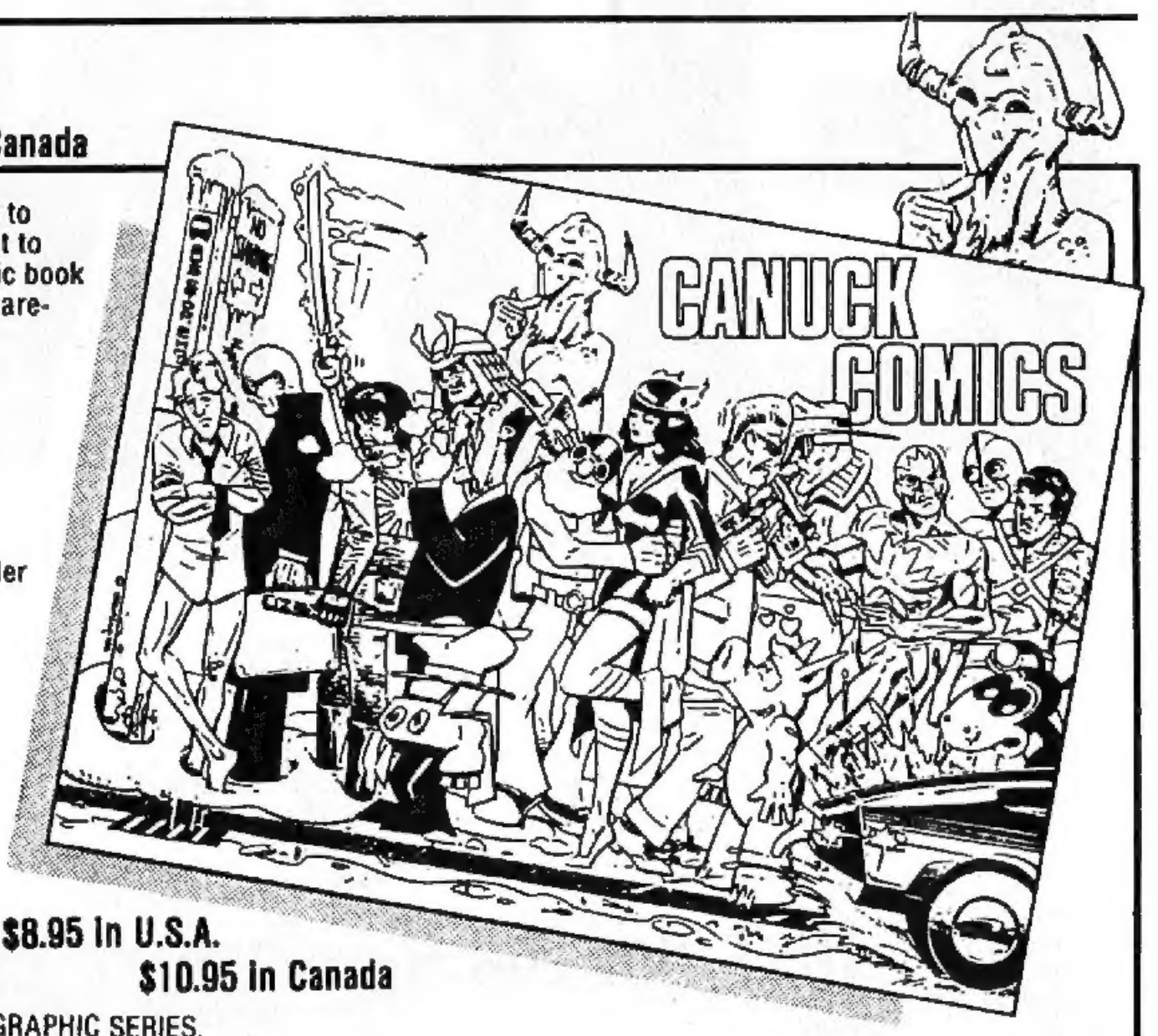

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EB'NN

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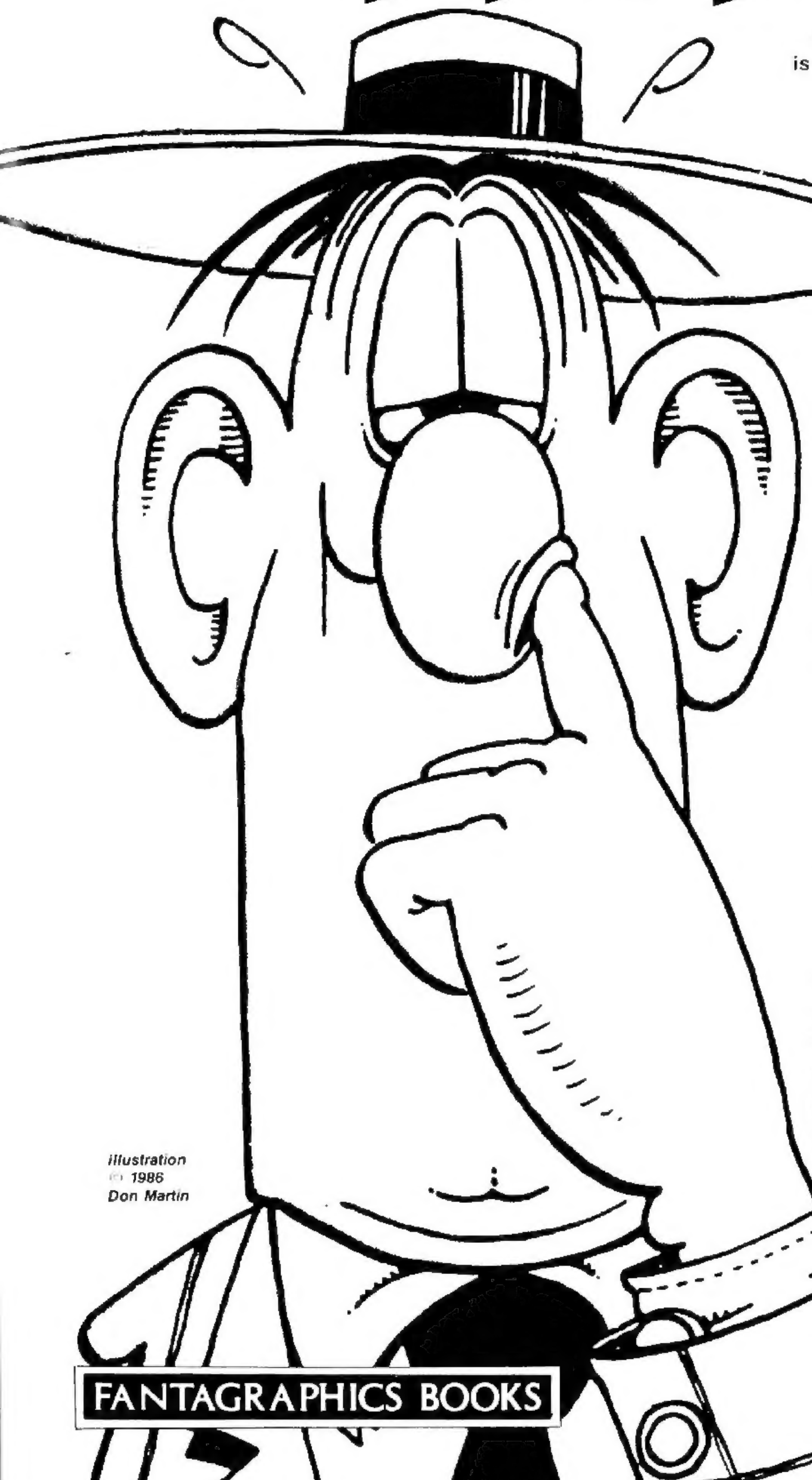
ON SALE NOW

He's *not* the blue-bird of happiness.

the mystery.
the magic.
the mirth.
Whisper it:

HONK!



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